



Howard County Council

George Howard Building
3430 Court House Drive
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043-4392

COUNCILMEMBERS

Liz Walsh, Chair
District 1

Opel Jones, Vice Chair
District 2

Deb Jung
District 4

Christiana Rigby
District 3

David Yungmann
District 5

Meeting Minutes - Approved

Operating Budget Work Session #3
Web-based Virtual Meeting
Wednesday, May 12, 2021
9:30 a.m.

The Chairperson opened the Meeting at 9:35 a.m.

Members Present: Liz Walsh, Chairperson; Opel Jones, Vice Chairperson; Deb Jung; Christiana Rigby; David Yungmann.

Council Staff Present: Michelle Harrod, Council Administrator; Craig Glendenning, County Auditor; Gary Kuc, County Solicitor.

Budget Office Present: Holly Sun, Brook Mamo, Andrew Galarza, Norman Schnobrich

Auditor Office Present: Craig Glendenning, Ed Shulder, Owen Clark, Lisa Geerman, Maya Cameron, Michael Martin, and Melanie Bishop

Administration Staff Present: Noted below.

General Government and Public Facilities

Finance

Mr. Ighile provide Council with information about the FY2022 Operating budget. General discussion about the Disposable Plastic Reduction Fund; Annapolis Junction TIF; Downtown Columbia TIF; and various other sources of funding. The Council requested more information about enforcement of the plastic bag fee; historical data of the various TIFs; details of College Bonds; and changes in the transfer tax.

Planning and Zoning

Ms. Gowan discussed the departments' staffing concerns and responded to Council questions about the FY2022 operating budget. General discussion about disposition of the old court house; evaluation of DPZ Fee Schedule; Planning Advisory Committee; and the recently filled Special Downtown Columbia Liaison position.

Ag. Preservation

Department of Planning and Zoning staff responded to Council questions about demographics of the recipients of Agricultural Preservation programs and funding for Soil Conservation from the Ag Preservation Fund.

Soil Conservation

General discussion about initiatives in the FY2022 Soil Conservation budget which include urban agricultural projects and various conservation work.

UMD Extension

Mr. Walter provided information about class and program enrollment; summer camps; and Howard County Fair.

Technology and Communications

Ms. Ganz provided highlights of accomplishments in FY2021 which included; improvements to the citizen portal; new County website launch; public safety technology and various technology support during the pandemic. General discussion about the FY2022 operating budget includes increased telepresence; move to the new courthouse; and expansion of Broadband.

Inspections, Licenses and Permits

Mr. Francis provided an overview of the Department of Inspections, Licenses and Permits' FY2022 operating budget. General discussion about Project Docs program (PDox) and the new redline process.

Housing & Community Dev.

Ms. Cimino responded to Council questions about the Bigley property; funds provided to the Housing Commission; Dorsey Overlook project; criteria to qualify for MIHU and LIHU; and how various types of housing impacts school enrollment.

The Meeting concluded at 3:01 pm

Administration Attendees for Wednesday, May 12, 2021

Operating Budget Work Session #3

General Government and Public Facilities

Finance

Rafiu Ighile
Angela Price

Planning and Zoning

Amy Gowan
Laura Boone

Ag. Preservation

Amy Gowan
Laura Boone
Joy Levy

Soil Conservation

David Plummer
Jackie Kern
Michele Cerulli

UMD Extension

Richard Walt

Technology and Communications

Brandy Ganz
Sandra Tello

Inspections, Licenses and Permits

Bob Francis
Bob Firmani

Housing & Community Dev.

Kelly Cimino
Tom Wall